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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00
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O R 261845Z APR 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3176
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO CINCLANT NORVA
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USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2431

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL NATO
SUBJ: EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP (EWG) DRAFT REPORT ON NATO FLEXIBILITY STUDIES

REF: USNATO 2399 DTG 251830Z APR 77

1. WE HAVE REVIEWED THE DRAFT EWG REPORT AND GENERALLY FIND IT A USEFUL DOCUMENT. SPECIFIC COMMENTS ARE KEYED TO PARAGRAPH NUMBERS IN THE DRAFT REPORT AS TRANSMITTED BY REFTEL.

A. PARA 6: IN PENULTIMATE SENTENCE "AT THE BEST" SHOULD READ "AT LEAST".

B. PARA 14: MEASURE S-20, WITH WHICH THIS PARAGRAPH IS CONCERNED, CALLS FOR ENDORSEMENT OF A TASK FORCE AS OPPOSED TO AN AREA APPROACH TO COMMAND AND CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS IN THE SOUTHERN REGION. DURING PREPARATION OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE'S FLEXIBILITY REPORT TO THE CONFIDENTIAL

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SYG, THE TURKISH MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE NOMINATED THIS MEASURE FOR MINISTERIAL ATTENTION. THE GREEK MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE OBJECTED TO ITS INCLUSION ON THE GROUNDS THAT A COMPLETE SACEUR REPORT ON THE SUBJECT (REQUESTED BY THE MC IN OCT 1973) HAD NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED. THE FINAL MC REPORT TO THE SYG CALLS FOR S-20 TO BE BROUGHT TO MINISTERIAL ATTENTION AT THE REQUEST OF TURKEY WHILE NOTING THE GREEK RESERVATION. WE SEE MINISTERIAL CONSIDERATION OF THIS PROPOSAL AS PREMATURE ON PROCEDURAL, IF NOT SUBSTANTIVE, GROUNDS. HOWEVER, THE

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ISSUE HAS NOW BEEN FRAMED SO THAT A VOTE FOR INCLUSION OF THIS PARAGRAPH MAY BE INTERPRETED AS A VOTE FOR TURKEY AND A VOTE FOR EXCLUSION AS A VOTE FOR GREECE. FURTHERMORE, THE RULES UNDER WHICH THE EWG OPERATES ARE SUCH THAT TURKEY CAN INSIST THAT THIS MATTER BE CONSIDERED BY THE DPC (IN WHICH GREECE IS NOT REPRESENTED) EVEN IF ISOLATED IN THE EWG. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT NORWAY (AND POSSIBLY OTHERS) MAY CHALLENGE INCLUSION OF THIS PARAGRAPH DURING THE APRIL 28 MEETING. WE THEREFORE PROPOSE TO "LAY LOW" ON THIS DURING THIS MEETING. IT WOULD BE USEFUL, IN THIS REGARD, TO RECEIVE GUIDANCE PERMITTING US THE FLEXIBILITY TO JOIN ANY REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WHICH MIGHT BE REACHED. ONE POSSIBILITY WOULD BE FOR MINISTERS TO BE ASKED TO REMAND THIS PROBLEM TO THE MILI-TARY COMMITTEE FOR RESOLUTION.

C. PARA 20: WE BELIEVE THIS PARAGRAPH SHOULD BE MADE MORE EXPLICIT BY RECAPITULATING THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN FOREGOING PARAGRAPHS, AND WE INTEND TO SUGGEST THAT SUB-PARA 20-C BE EXPANDED ACCORDINGLY.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTONGUIDANCE, AS PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED BY REFTEL, BY OOB APRIL 28, 1977.STREATOR

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